

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SUZANNE BONAMICI

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 17, 2016

Ms. BONAMICI. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to be in Washington, D.C. on November 14, 2016, because my flight from Oregon was delayed because of maintenance issues. If I had been present I would have voted in favor of H.R. 985, the Concrete Masonry Products Research, Education, and Promotion Act, and H.R. 2669, the Anti-Spoofing Act of 2016.

H.R. 985 allows producers of concrete masonry to collaborate on a coordinated research and education program to develop and improve markets for concrete masonry products. The bill authorizes the Department of Commerce to oversee the board administering the program. If I had been present I would have voted for the bill.

H.R. 2669 expands current consumer protections to prohibit the transmission of inaccurate caller-ID information over text messages or Voice-over-Internet (ViOP) calls. Under current law, only voice calls are protected from inaccurate caller-ID information. Additionally, the bill requires the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) and Federal Trade Commission (FTC) to provide consumers with information to help identify scams that are perpetrated using inaccurate caller-ID information. If I had been present I would have voted for the bill.

TEXAS AGRICULTURE MEMORIAL DAY

HON. JOE BARTON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 17, 2016

Mr. BARTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the first annual Texas Agricultural Memorial Day, a day we remember the lives lost and the sacrifices made by our state's farmers and ranchers as they provide food and clothing for Texas families. Texas Governor Greg Abbott designated November 21st as Texas Agriculture Memorial Day, which will be observed annually. The inaugural ceremony will be held on November 21, 2016 in the Auditorium of the Texas State Capitol in Austin, Texas.

Every year, there will be a nomination and application process to add names of honorees to the memorial for three categories—memorial, honor and memorial service. The memorial list is for those who have lost their life while engaged in agricultural-related pursuits. The honor list is for those who have had a severely debilitating accident while engaged in agricultural-related pursuits. The memorial service list is for those who lost their life in a non-agricultural accident and had an active role in an agricultural operation.

John Paul and Heather Dineen from Waxahachie, Texas envisioned the annual Texas Agricultural Memorial Day and organized the inaugural ceremony. Ten years ago, the Dineen family lost their five-year-old son, Johnny, in an agriculture accident. They are committed to sharing their story and advocating for safety awareness and education.

Working alongside Governor Abbott and the Texas Farm Bureau, their hard work and vision culminated in the creation of the Texas Agriculture Memorial Day.

REVEREND DOCTOR JULES SMITH
AND REVEREND IDA SMITH**HON. ED PERLMUTTER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 17, 2016

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Reverend Doctor Jules Smith and his wife Reverend Ida Smith for their service and dedication to their community and the Rising Star Missionary Baptist Church.

As devoted servants of the Lord, Reverend Doctor Smith has served the Rising Star Missionary Baptist Church with faith, devotion, and integrity since 1986. Under his leadership and Ida by his side, the church has grown from 33 members to over 1500 and serves 42 multi-faceted ministries to meet the needs of every age group. Prior to joining Rising Star Church, Reverend Doctor Smith served as Assistant Pastor at Unity Baptist Church in the Bronx, New York and as Sunday School Radio Commentator and Associate Pastor at Union Baptist Church in Denver.

Reverend Ida Smith serves as First Lady and Associate Minister at Rising Star Missionary Baptist Church. Reverend Ida has inspired many throughout her work, serving on several missionary tours to Canada; Caribbean Islands; Burkina Faso, West Africa; Nassau, Bahamas; Lagos, Nigeria; and China.

Together, they also serve in various leadership capacities across a variety of local and national organizations including the General Missionary Baptist Convention of Colorado, Salem Baptist District Association, Baptist Ministers Conference of Metro Denver, International Association of Ministers' Wives and Widows, RSMBC Spiritual Stars Women's Ministry, and the American Baptist Churches of the Rocky Mountains. In addition, they have both received numerous awards, citations and commendations in both the secular and Christian communities.

I extend my deepest appreciation to Reverend Doctor Jules Smith and Reverend Ida Smith for their service and dedication to the Rising Star Church congregants and our community.

RECOGNIZING SEA ROAD SCHOOL
AS A 2016 NATIONAL BLUE RIBBON SCHOOL**HON. CHELLIE PINGREE**

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 17, 2016

Ms. PINGREE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Sea Road School in Kennebunk, Maine for its selection as a 2016 National Blue Ribbon School.

Every year, the Department of Education selects Blue Ribbon Schools from across the country to celebrate excellence in teaching and learning. Sea Road School is one of 329 public and private elementary, middle, and

high schools honored in 2016, the culmination of a long process of nomination and application focused on its record of sustained student achievement.

Sea Road School is an Exemplary High Performing School. The commitment that requires from the entire community cannot be overstated. But we also know that the true measure of a school is not based on test scores alone. It's in the devotion of educators, who endeavor to understand how each child learns best. It's in the willingness of students to discover their strengths and follow their passions. It's in the support and engagement of parents and community members who know the incalculable value of a strong start for our kids.

Mr. Speaker, Sea Road School is a community dedicated to fostering scholarship and compassion in each child who walks through its doors, and I'm proud to see it so deservedly recognized on a national level. I commend Principal Stephen Marquis, Superintendent Kathryn Hawes, and all the educators, staff, parents, and students who have worked to build this success. Keep it up.

COMMEMORATING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE IBEW LOCAL 129

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 17, 2016

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 100th anniversary of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW) Local 129 of Lorain, Ohio. This is an incredibly significant centennial milestone of labor history in northern Ohio.

Since 1916, IBEW Local 129 has served northern Ohio with distinction, providing the highest quality of electrical work and providing power to the residents of the Lorain-Elyria area. Its members continue to dedicate their careers to the advancement of wages, benefits and working conditions for all electrical workers.

The history of this organization dates back to March 1, 1916 when the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 129 was chartered in Elyria, Ohio. The founding eleven brothers were: Henry Therman, H.R. Ward, Gus Pallas, A.J. Miller, I.W. Horton, Ray Ward, J.W. Bareholmen, John Keishair, F.A. Lawrence, A.E. Gramholz and C. Pallas.

Beginning wages were roughly \$0.12/hour—which was far greater than an unorganized laborer in those days.

In 1917, IBEW Local 627 Lorain was formed under the leadership of Organizer Boyle from Local 129. By the time 1930 rolled around, the membership numbers and work available to the two locals was not what either had anticipated. After much deliberation and negotiation, Local 129 of Elyria absorbed Local 627 of Lorain and, under one banner became the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 129 of Lorain, Ohio.

The skilled men and women of IBEW Local 129 have contributed their time and talents to many notable projects including: The National Tube Company, Fruehauf Trailer Plant at Avon Lake, United States Steel, The Ford Manufacturing Plant, local commercial developments like O'Neil's Shopping Center, Lorain